

DRILLER/BLASTER

DESCRIPTION

Fascinated by the explosives industry? Driller/Blaster's drill holes, assemble, plant, and detonate explosives to loosen earth, rock, stumps, or to demolish structures to facilitate removal. Drillers and blasters are employed by mining, quarrying and construction companies and by drilling and blasting contractors.

SKILLS

- Follow sets of rules to arrange things or actions in a specific order
- Keep the hand and arm steady, often shifting between two or more actions
- Identify when something is wrong or is likely to go wrong
- Mathematic problem solving skills

DUTIES

- Operate drilling machines to drill blast holes in rock at road or other construction sites
- Operate drill equipped with auger to drill holes for building foundations or pilings
- Read diagrams, lay out drill pattern, determine depth and diameter of blast holes
- Test to determine the explosives required
- Assemble primer charges, load explosives in blast holes and connect electrical wires
- Detonating cords or fuses connect to blasting machines

EDUCATION

- **Completion of secondary school is usually required**
- Experience as a heavy equipment operator may be required for drillers
- Experience as a blaster helper in surface mining and quarrying
- Provincial blasting license is usually required for blasters

RELATED PATHWAY OPTIONS

Heavy Equipment Operator

SALARY RANGE \$45,000 to \$93,000

VISIT WWW.MYOCCA.CA FOR MORE CAREERS IN CONSTRUCTION

WHERE TO TRAIN

N/A

OTHER OPTIONS

CONFEDERATION COLLEGE MINING TECHNIQUES

CAMBRIAN COLLEGE MINING ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

FLEMING COLLEGE BLASTING TECHNIQUES

GETTING STARTED

THE OCCA CAN HELP YOU EXPLORE THESE THREE PATHWAYS:

- 1** You can begin by applying for a job directly in the Construction Industry. Once you begin working with a Construction Company or Contractor you will quickly gain the necessary skills needed to advance yourself through in-house, work-as-you-learn training.
- 2** You can get started through an apprenticeship program by combining on the job training with technical in-class training, gaining experience and increased responsibility. You can work in the industry, get paid, and work towards earning credits .
- 3** You can enroll in a University, Community College or a Private Technical School to study and prepare yourself for a Career in Construction. All of this information may be found through our website.

